

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method in a data processing system for managing
information, the method comprising:
receiving information from a plurality of users;
storing the information to form stored information;
receiving a request to remove selected information
10 from the stored information from a user within the set of
users, wherein the selected information is received in
response to a transaction involving the user; and
responsive to receiving the request, removing the
selected information from the stored information.
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2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving
a request includes:
determining whether the request is a valid request;
and
20 preventing removing of the selected information in
response to a determination that the request is an
invalid request.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of a
25 certificate, a password, and a key is used to determine
whether the request is valid.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the selected
information is personal information about the user.

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5. The method of claim 4, wherein the personal information includes at least one of a user name, a user identification, a password, a telephone number, an e-mail address, a physical address, a social security number, a birth date, and a credit card number.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction is a commercial transaction involving a credit card number.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the request sent to the user is in a form of an applet requesting personal information about the user.
8. A method in a data processing system for managing information, the method comprising:
- sending a Web page to a user at a client;
 - receiving a response, wherein the response include the information;
 - processing a business transaction with the client using the information;
 - storing the information to form stored information;
 - receiving a request to remove the stored information; and
 - removing the stored information in response to receiving the request.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the request is received after retaining the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction.
10. The method of claim 8, wherein the business transaction is a purchase of an item using a credit card.

TO BE FORWARDED TO THE PATENT OFFICE

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15. The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the second receiving means includes:

5 means for preventing removing of the selected
information in response to a determination that the
request is an invalid request.

17. The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the
selected information is personal information about the
15 user.

19. The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the
transaction is a commercial transaction involving a
25 credit card number.

20. The data processing system of claim 14, wherein the request sent to the user is in a form of an applet requesting personal information about the user.

21. A data processing system for managing information,
the data processing system comprising:

sending means for sending a Web page to a user at a
client;

5 first receiving means for receiving a response,
wherein the response include the information;

processing means for processing a business
transaction with the client using the information;

10 storing means for storing the information to form
stored information;

second receiving means for receiving a request to
remove the stored information; and

removing means for removing the stored information
in response to receiving the request.

15 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the request is
received after retaining the stored information is
unnecessary to the business transaction.

20 23. The data processing system of claim 21, wherein the
business transaction is a purchase of an item using a
credit card.

24. A computer program product in a computer readable
25 medium for managing information, the computer program
product comprising:

first instructions for receiving information from a
plurality of users;

30 second instructions for storing the information to
form stored information;

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third instructions for receiving a request to remove selected information from the stored information from a user within the set of users, wherein the selected information is received in response to a transaction involving the user; and

25. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing information, the computer program product comprising:

15 second instructions for receiving a response,
 wherein the response include the information;

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    fourth instructions for storing the information to
20  form stored information;

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sixth instructions for removing the stored information in response to receiving the request.

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DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY